Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal



Wrestling with 'doubt-sayers': A first step in leading community-wide climate change action for better health

Author(s): Ritchie J

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Abstract:

Issue addressed: Although the evidence base for climate change is indisputable and the potential human health impact is extremely concerning, to date public health professionals are playing little part in influencing community change to accept and act on the science. Method: In reviewing the techniques used to obstruct action on tobacco control by vested interests through constantly raising doubt about the science in this arena, a similar pattern is seen in obstructing action on climate change. Results: It is clear that the raising of unverified doubt is the primary tool employed by profit-driven corporations to prevent constructive action in both these arenas, with the very high potential for the health of the whole population to suffer as a result. Conclusion: Those promoting the health of Australians have a responsibility to optimise health in this regard and need to think differently through embracing complexity science and then take action, with the first step being to provide constant counter-arguments to the unsubstantiated statements of the 'doubt-sayers'.

Source: Ask your librarian to help locate this item.

Resource Description

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

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General Health Impact

Medical Community Engagement: ☑

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Resource Type: **™**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

Timescale: **☑**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified